

members of the Judiciary to take another look at their rather lax regulations governing gifts and travel. The amendment passed by a vote of 75 to 23. Again, my intent was to help restore confidence and some measure of accountability to governmental officials and institutions.

Although not a formal governmental institution, the importance of the media in a representative democracy cannot be overstated. The role of the press as interpreter and sole purveyor of the news conveys with it a solemn duty to the public it serves. No single elected official or group of officials can so profoundly affect the focus and tone of the vital daily information which the public digests, believes, and relies upon. The press have an awesome responsibility in our form of government—one that far outweighs any slight inconvenience like filing a list of one's speaking fees. Regrettably, the activities of some—not all, some—members of the press have called into question the ability of the media to be consistently fair and unbiased. As with every institution, most journalists do a good job, providing balanced information that fosters an informed populace. Unfortunately, the perception remains that some reporters' stories are slanted in a particular way or skewed toward a specific interest. It is these perceptions that have to be addressed. My hope, all along, has been that journalists would recognize the need to address this problem themselves. They should do that. That is the way it should be done. As of now, I see little evidence that this will happen.

So today, I am submitting this measure in an effort to jump start the process and begin the frank public discourse which will be necessary in order to meet the justifiable expectations of the American people, whom we all serve. The Senate Rules Committee has jurisdiction over this area. I have spoken with its chairman, Senator STEVENS, some time ago and he is willing to hold hearings on the bill. These hearings will provide an excellent opportunity for all interested parties to come together and offer their varying perspectives and viewpoints. I look forward to a thorough airing of the views of any and all participants who wish to come.

This country is at a critical crossroads. The American people's trust of government has been replaced with a cynicism that is deeply disturbing. If the public continues to lose faith in the traditional institutions which form the bedrock of our republic, before long the very institutions themselves will start crumbling. To avoid such a calamity, we all must work together to try and rebuild confidence in our basic institutions. I firmly believe that this critical need outweighs any one individual's particular concerns and transcends what may be viewed as certain personal prerogatives. All of us involved in this process have a responsibility to make it work. Often a small sacrifice—

a good-faith gesture can do wonders toward restoring credibility. The Senate, as it did in 1991, when it adopted my amendment banning honoraria—some Senators did not like that, and we also banned honoraria to our staffs—has led the way and set an example. It is my hope that this resolution will serve the excellent and laudable purpose of encouraging renewed faith in our hallowed fourth estate and in the objectivity of its reporting.

I shall send the resolution to the desk, where it will be appropriately referred.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

AKAKA AMENDMENT NO. 2346

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. AKAKA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 1026) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 371, after line 21, add the following:

SEC. 1062. SENSE OF SENATE REGARDING UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTING.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate makes the following findings:

(1) The President of France stated on June 13, 1995, that the Republic of France plans to conduct eight nuclear test explosions over the next several months.

(2) The People's Republic of China continues to conduct underground nuclear weapons tests.

(3) The United States, France, Russia, and Great Britain have observed a moratorium of nuclear testing since 1992.

(4) A resumption of testing by the Republic of France could result in the disintegration of the current testing moratorium and a renewal of underground testing by other nuclear weapon states.

(5) A resumption of nuclear testing by the Republic of France raises serious environmental and health concerns.

(6) The United Nations Conference on Disarmament presently is meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, for the purpose of negotiating a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which would halt permanently the practice of conducting nuclear test explosions.

(7) Continued underground weapons testing by the Republic of France and the People's Republic of China undermines the efforts of the international community to conclude a CTBT by 1996, a goal endorsed by 175 nations at the recently completed NPT Extension and Review Conference (the conference for the extension and review of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty).

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the Republic of France and the People's Republic of China should abide by the current international moratorium on nuclear test explosions and refrain

from conducting underground nuclear tests in advance of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

SARBANES (AND MIKULSKI) AMENDMENT NO. 2347

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. SARBANES (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1026, supra; as follows:

On page 411, line 6, strike out "\$2,058,579,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$2,068,579,000"

On page 412, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

(7) For the construction of the Large Anchoic Chamber, Phase I, at the Patuxent River Naval Warfare Center, Maryland, authorized by section 2201(a) of the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993 (Public Law 102-484), as amended by section 2702 of this Act, \$10,000,000.

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

MCCAIN AMENDMENT NO. 2348

Mr. MCCAIN proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 2002) making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 72, after line 15, insert: "(c) This section shall take effect on April 1, 1996."

On page 73, after line 24, insert: "(c) This section shall take effect on April 1, 1996."

THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

AKAKA AMENDMENT NO. 2349

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. AKAKA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1026, supra; as follows:

On page 277, after line 25, insert the following:

SEC. 650. SELECTED RESERVE INCENTIVE FOR INFANTRY SPECIALTY.

The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Army shall reconsider the decision not to include the infantry military occupational specialty among the military skills and specialties for which special pays are provided under the Selected Reserve Incentive Program.

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

STEVENS AMENDMENTS NOS. 2350–2352

Mr. STEVENS proposed three amendments to the bill (S. 1087) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes; as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 2350

On page 29, before the period on line 13, insert: "Provided further, That of the funds